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REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 9 March 1954

SUBJECT MVD Signal Units

NO. OF PAGES 8

DATE OF INFORMATION

REFERENCES:

PLACE ACQUIRED

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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MVD in Turkistan

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information only on MVD Border Guard Troops Signal Units.

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Each MVD border district in Turkistan had its own separate signal battalion. Location of all such battalions are listed below.

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The separate signal battalion was part of the border district headquarters. In Turkistan there was one separate signal battalion for each of the following border districts:

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Turkmen Border District, Hq. Ashkhabad N 37-57, E 58-237

Tadzhik Border District, Hq. Stalinabad N 38-30, E 68-457

Kazakh Border District, Hq. Alma-Ata N 43-12, E 76-577

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ARMY review completed.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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3. [redacted] 25X1

All communication facilities for Border Guard Troops were furnished by the Signal Department, Main Administration of Border Guard Troops, MVD, Moscow.

4. [redacted] civil authorities had their own telephone, telegraph, radio units, and equipment; likewise, the military had its own signal units. The MVD had its own lines, radio stations, etc., and there was no coordination (lending or exchange) of signal units or equipment between the three separate agencies. Each could communicate with the other two agencies by telephone.

5. [redacted]

6. Border Guard Troops had no direction finding equipment.

7. [redacted]

Border Guard Troops employed no jamming operators or equipment.

8. [redacted]

Locations of separate signal battalions subordinate to border districts were given in Para 1, above.

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[redacted] Locations of subordinate signal units in the Turkmen Border District are given in paragraph below.

#### Turkmen Border Guard

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The Turkmen Border District had a Separate Signal Battalion, subordinate to the Chief Signal Officer on the staff of the CG, Turkmen Border District. This battalion had no companies, but consisted of four platoons: radio platoon, telegraph-telephone platoon, wire construction platoon, and electric devices platoon. The battalion also had a message center, and personnel for depots, monitoring, repairs, etc. Estimated strength of the Separate Signal Battalion [redacted] was 25X1 about 10 officers and 250 EM.

Each detachment of the Turkmen Border District had a signal company. This company was subordinate to the Signal Officer on the detachment staff, and was not considered part of the Separate

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Signal Battalion, Turkmen Border District. The estimated strength of the company was about six to seven officers and 100 EM. The company had a message center and four platoons: radio platoon, telegraph-telephone platoon, wire construction platoon, and electric devices platoon. Each platoon had about one officer and 20 EM.

Each border battalion had a Signal Officer on the battalion staff and a signal section consisting of three radio operators, three telephone operators, three electro-mechanics, and three movie projector operators. The section was subordinate to the service and supply company of the battalion, and not to the signal company organic to the detachment.

Each border company had a signal unit of three to four signal men who monitored and maintained the electric detection devices and took care of the homing pigeons at the company.

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the following list of signal equipment for the 2nd Bn., 68th Border Gd. Det.: 50 UNAI-43 telephones, one teletype (model unknown), one A-7 transceiver, three RBM transceivers, one switchboard (model unknown), and about 550 km. of telephone wire. Also in supply were several pairs of pole climbers, flashlights, some radio tubes, tools, insulation material, spare parts, and five kilometers of reserve telephone wire.

a detachment had one telegraph station

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the locations of the following signal units of the Turkmen Border District: (Note: the Turkmen Border District had seven detachments: 18th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 67th, 68th, and 71st.)

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Sep. Sig. Bn., Turkmen Border District Hq., Ashkhabad

Sig. Co., 18th Border Gd. Det., Ashkhabad

Sig. Co., 68th Border Gd. Det., Takhta-Bazar N 35-57, E 62-507

Sig. Co., 71st Border Gd. Det., Bakharden N 38-29, E 57-257

Sig. Co., 67th Border Gd. Det., Kerk1 N 37-52, E 65-127

Sig. Co., u/1 Border Gd. Det., Seranks N 36-32, E 61-137

Sig. Co., u/1 Border Gd. Det., Kyzyl-Atrek N 37-38, E 54-477

Sig. Co., u/1 Border Gd. Det., [redacted]

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Sig. Sec., Svc. and Supply Co., 1st Bn., Ak-Rabat N 35-27, E 61-477, 68th Border Gd. Det.

Sig. Sec., Svc. and Supply Co., 2nd Bn., Kushka N 35-16, E 62-247, 68th Border Gd. Det.

Sig. Sec., Svc. and Supply Co., 3rd Bn., Senn-Ali N 35-52, E 63-067, 68th Border Gd. Det.

Sig. Sec., Svc. and Supply Co., 4th Bn., southeast of Takhta-Bazar, 68th Border Gd. Det.

Sig. Unit, 6th Co., Islam-Cheshme N 35-24, E 62-107, 2nd Bn., 68th Border Gd. Det.

Sig. Unit, 7th Co., Kushka, 2nd Bn., 68th Border Gd. Det.

Sig. Unit, 8th Co., Medisan N 35-18, E 62-207, 2nd Bn., 68th Border Gd. Det.

Sig. Unit, 9th Co., Kara Chop N 35-19, E 62-307, 2nd Bn., 68th Border Gd. Det.

Sig. Unit, 10th Co., Berdy-Klych N 35-19, E 62-457, 2nd Bn., 68th Border Gd. Det.

#### Border Guard Command

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A lieutenant colonel on the staff of the CG of a border district was the Chief Signal Officer of the district. He was subordinate administratively to the CG, but technically to the Signal Department, Main Administration of Border Guard Troops, MVD. He had a staff of 10-15 officers under him, including the officers of the district separate signal battalion, which was also under his command. He was responsible for:

- a. Planning and construction of telephone-telegraph lines.
- b. Planning and organization of all communication networks in the territory of the border district, including radio, telephone, telegraph, and electrical detection devices.
- c. Construction and use of electrical detection devices on the border.

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- d. Procurement of all technical communications materials and equipment.
- e. Supervision and control of radio and telephone service.
- f. Maintenance of all equipment given above. Construction, maintenance, and servicing of communications within the border district were done by personnel of the border district separate signal battalion.

A detachment Chief Signal Officer had the same duties and responsibilities as given above, but limited to the territory of the detachment. Construction, maintenance, and servicing were done by the signal company of the detachment.

A battalion Signal Officer was responsible for planning, constructing, and maintaining radio, telephone, and electrical devices in the territory of the battalion. Construction, maintenance, and servicing were done by the battalion signal section.

No Border Guard Troops had any jamming functions. Border Guard Troops signal units, however, monitored telephone conversations and intercepted radio and telegraph messages of MVD personnel only, in order to insure compliance with security and cryptography regulations.

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All signal units within a border district were subordinate to the district Chief Signal Officer. The Chief Signal Officer was subordinate for administration to the border district CG, and technically to the Signal Department, Main Administration for Border Guard Troops, MVD.

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All signal supply was the responsibility of the Chief Signal Officer and did not go through the Deputy for Rear Services.

Supplies were requested by the company CO on a survey by his Signal Officer. The company CO requested the supplies from the battalion CO or Chief of Staff. The battalion CO or Chief of Staff requested the desired items from the detachment CO or Chief of Staff. If unavailable at the detachment depot, the detachment CO or Chief of Staff requested the items from the border district CO or Chief of Staff. If unavailable in the

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depots of the border district headquarters, the items would be ordered from the Signal Depot, Main Administration of Border Guard Troops, MVD.

Companies had no signal items in storage, and no repair facilities. [redacted] battalion had a small one-story brick depot, eight by eight meters, containing tools, several pairs of pole climbers, insulation material, spare parts, flash-lights, radio tubes, and five kilometers of telephone wire. Only the most simple repairs were made on battalion level. If a radio station or other signal equipment of the battalion needed repairs, it was sent to detachment headquarters for repair. Detachment had a depot with reserve telephones, radio stations, spare parts, etc.

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#### Intelligence Units of the Border Guard

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MVD Border Guard Troops had no signal intelligence units, and had no signal intelligence duties except to monitor Border Guard Troops radio, telephone, and telegraph messages, and to check the electrical detection devices.

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Special trip wires and electrical detection devices were used on the border, namely KLEN-M, S-2, SV-2, RUBIN, and TANTAL. These appliances were checked and maintained by the signal men of the border companies.

On the border, green and red rockets were used to light up areas at night, and also for signals from the border patrols to their company headquarters indicating the following:

- a. Someone crossed the border
- b. Send help
- c. Call out the OD
- d. Foreign airplanes crossing the border
- e. Send two to three EM to convoy an illegal border crosser.

Red, green, or any combination of red and green rockets were used for the above signals. No heliographs, microphones, or recorders were used [redacted]

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Specially trained dogs were used 24 hours a day by Border Guard Troops. The night patrols had two to three dogs with them. During the daytime, patrols would walk parallel to the 10-15 m. wide plowed strip along the border, looking for footprints of illegal border crossers. Such a patrol would have a search dog to initiate instant search in case footprints were noticed on the plowed strip or the dog smelled something suspicious.

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While each company had 10-12 homing pigeons, they were not used at all. In fact, in the 6th and 9th Co's., 2nd Bn., 68th Border Gd. Det., cats devoured all the pigeons. The unit CO's obtained a few pigeons as replacements from CO's of other companies.

Theoretically, if search teams went into desolate areas, far away from their unit station, they were to take homing pigeons along for emergency communication.

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Border Guard Troops had no signal regiments.

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Code intercepts and interrogation procedures on classified reports were within the functions of the intelligence section, not the signal section.

MVD Signal Units with Army

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no Border Guard Troops signal units were ever attached or subordinate to General Headquarters, Moscow; military districts; or army units on army group, army, corps, division, or other levels.

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MVD signal units were used only by the Ministry of Interior.

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, communications equipment was adequate for the MVD signal mission. The over-all efficiency of MVD signal units was good, and they were capable of carrying out their mission satisfactorily.

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there was a special MVD Signal School for border officers assigned as Signal Officers. EM telephone men received a special three-month training course and radio men a six-month course, both given at MVD border district headquarters.

29. a comparison between the technical training received versus political. 25X1

training at signal technical training schools was about 50% technical, 25% political, and 25% general military subjects.

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